Linking IIP Technology Development to NASA Aura Satellite Calibration: A Case Study of Isotopes

Sixth Annual
NASA Earth Science Technology Conference
Adelphi, Maryland

June 29, 2006

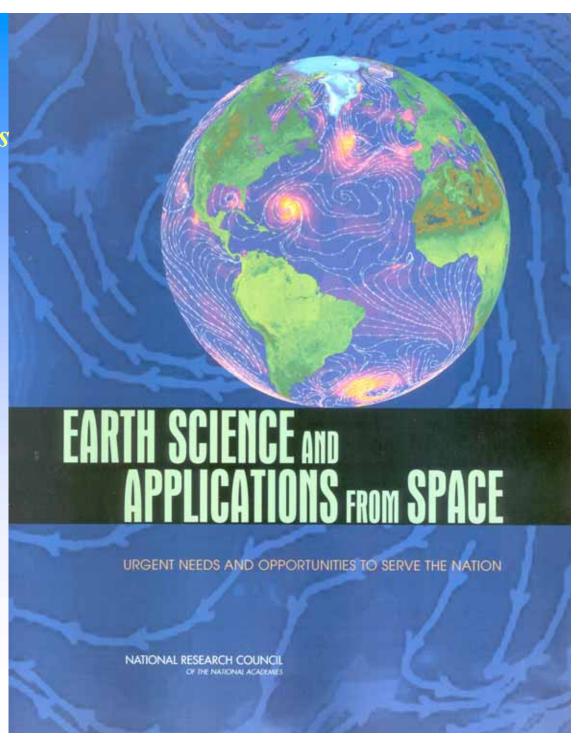
James G. Anderson, E. J. Moyer, T.F. Hanisco, E.M. Weinstock Harvard University 12 Oxford Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 anderson@huarp.harvard.edu

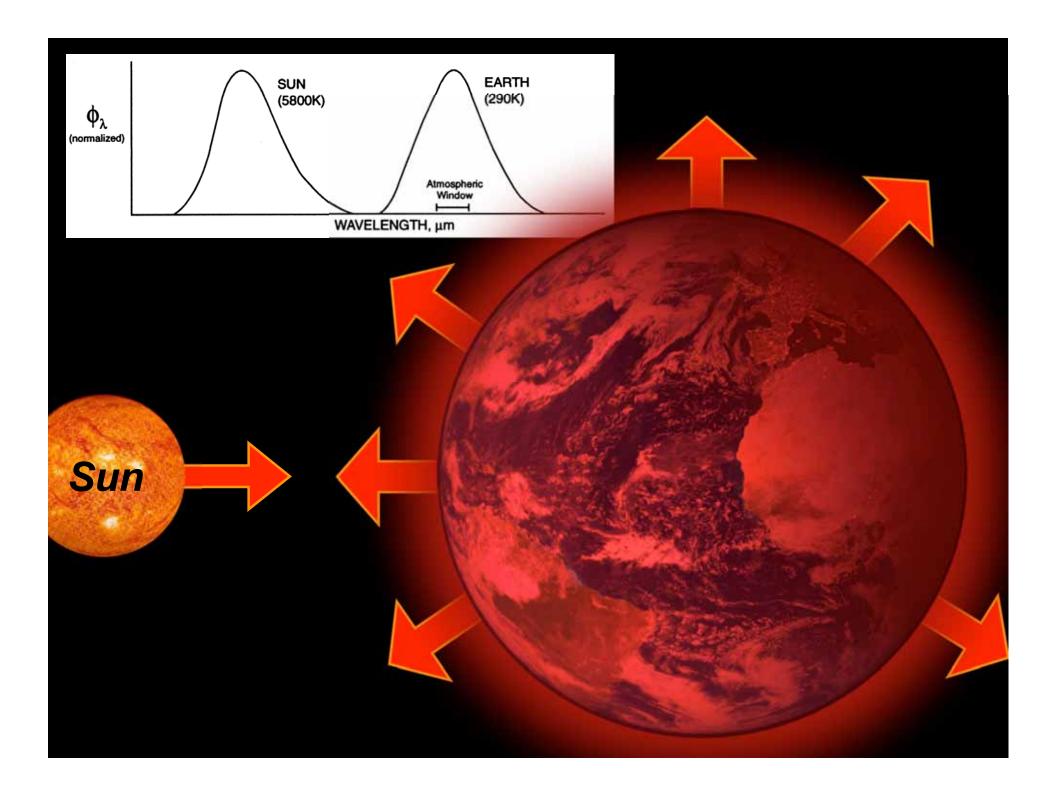
VISION

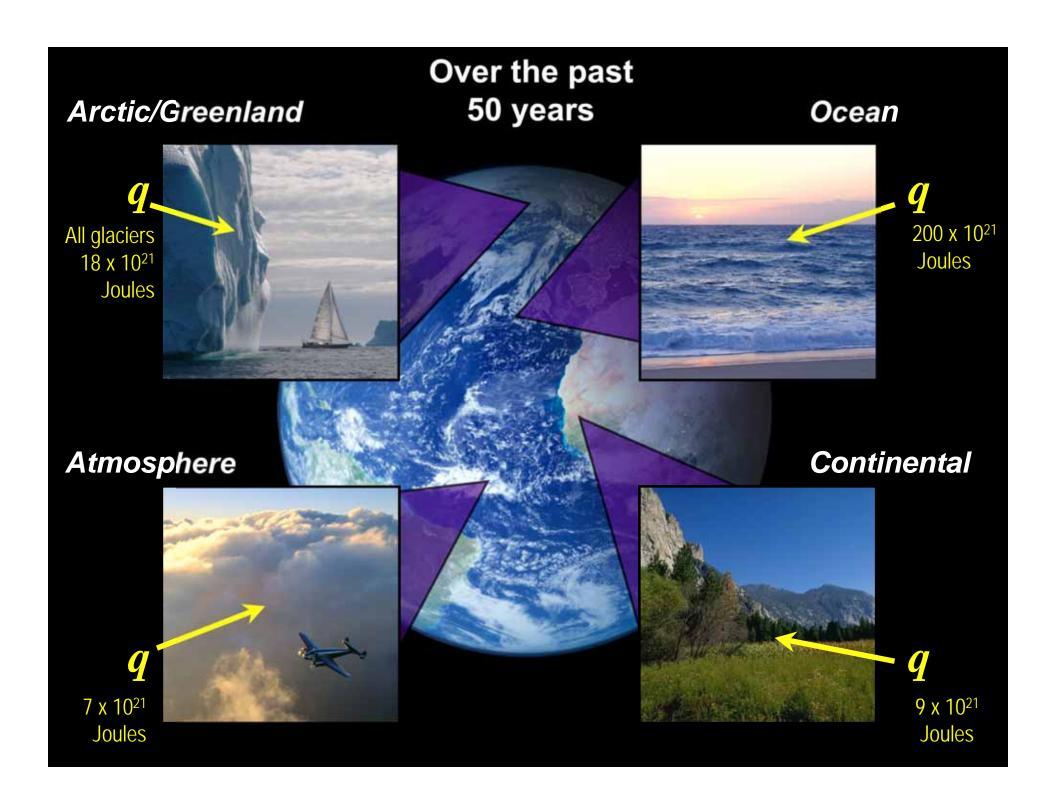
A healthy, secure, prosperous and sustainable society for all people on Earth

"Understanding the complex, changing planet on which we live, how it supports life, and how human activities affect its ability to do so in the future is one of the greatest intellectual challenges facing humanity. It is also one of the most important for society as it seeks to achieve prosperity and sustainability."

NRC (2005)

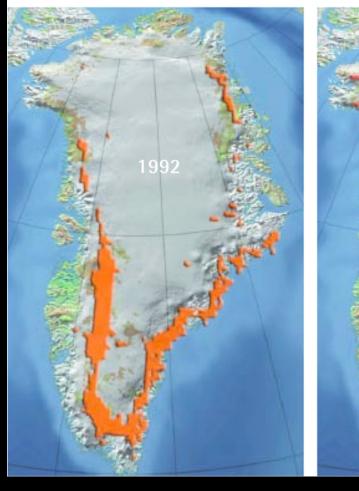




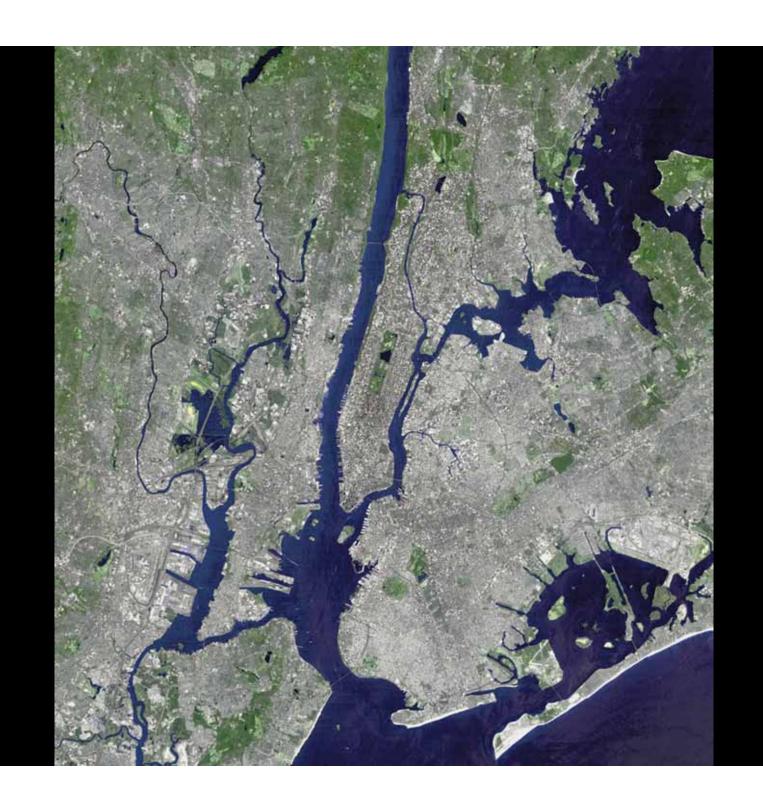


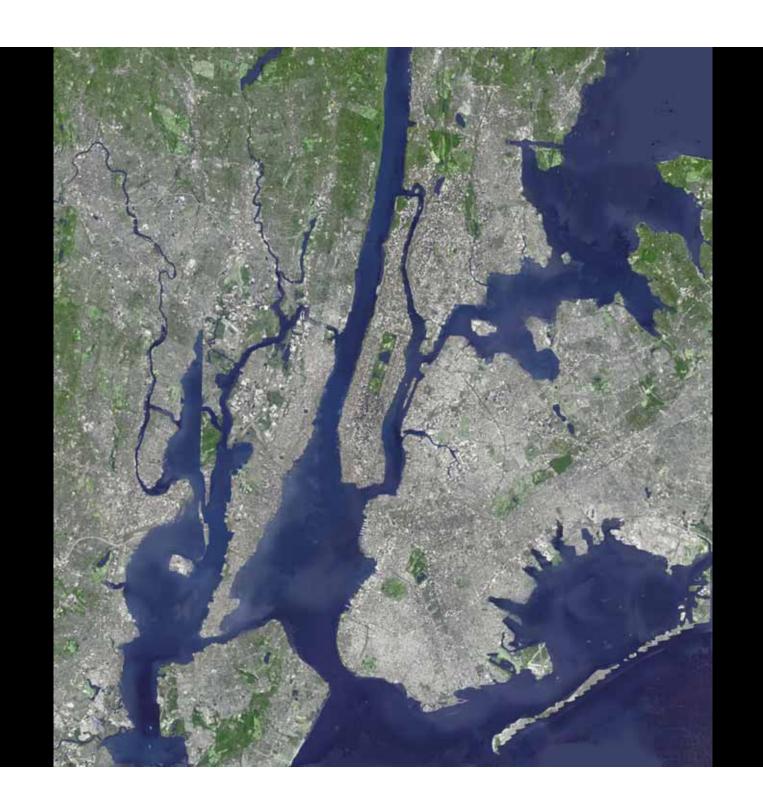


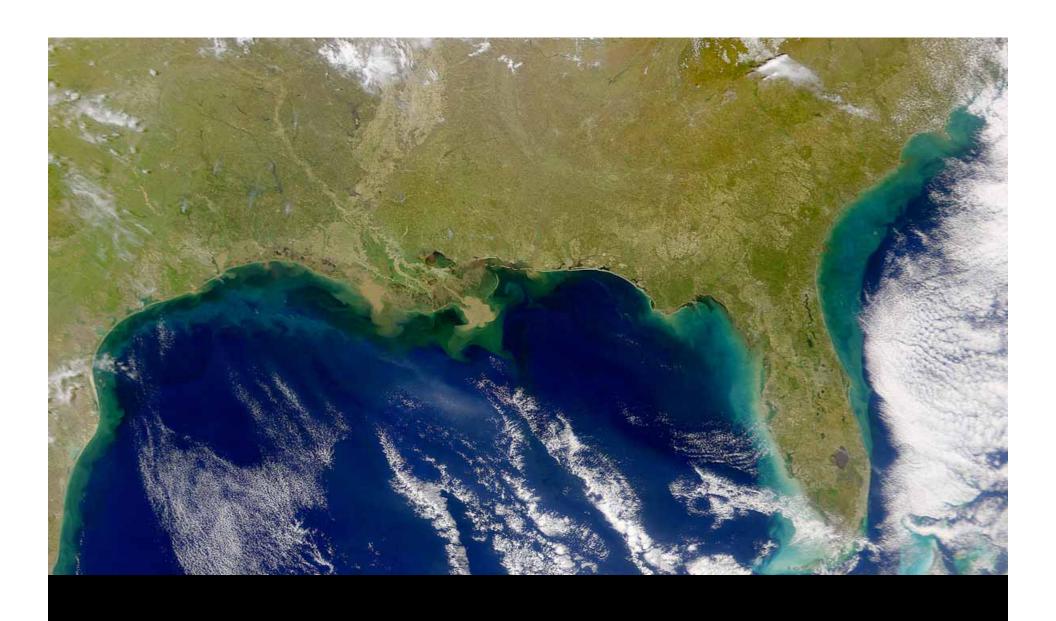
Greenland Ice Sheet Melt Extent

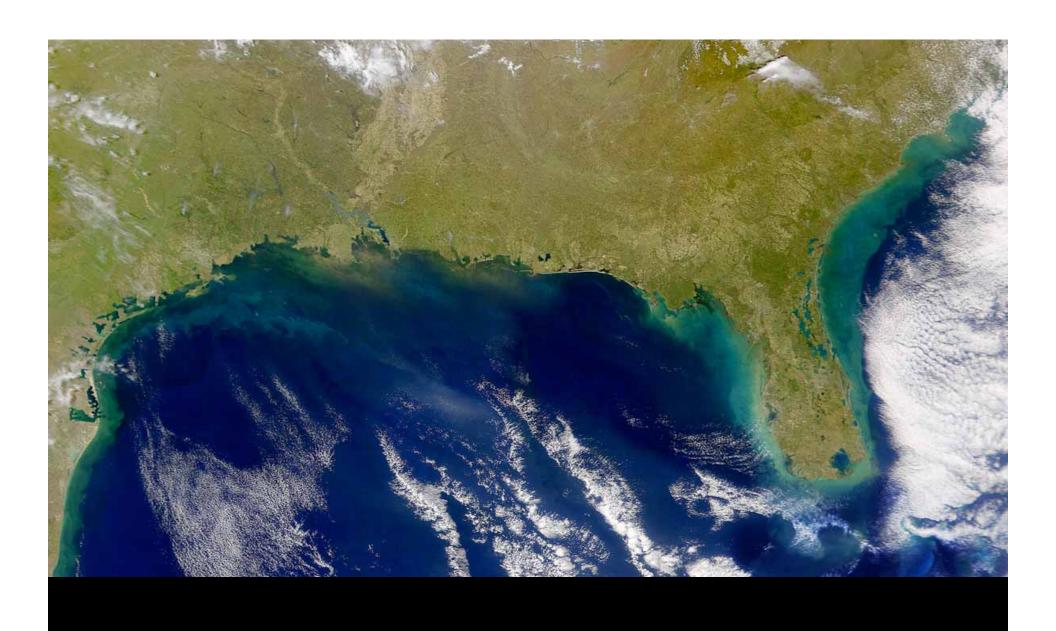


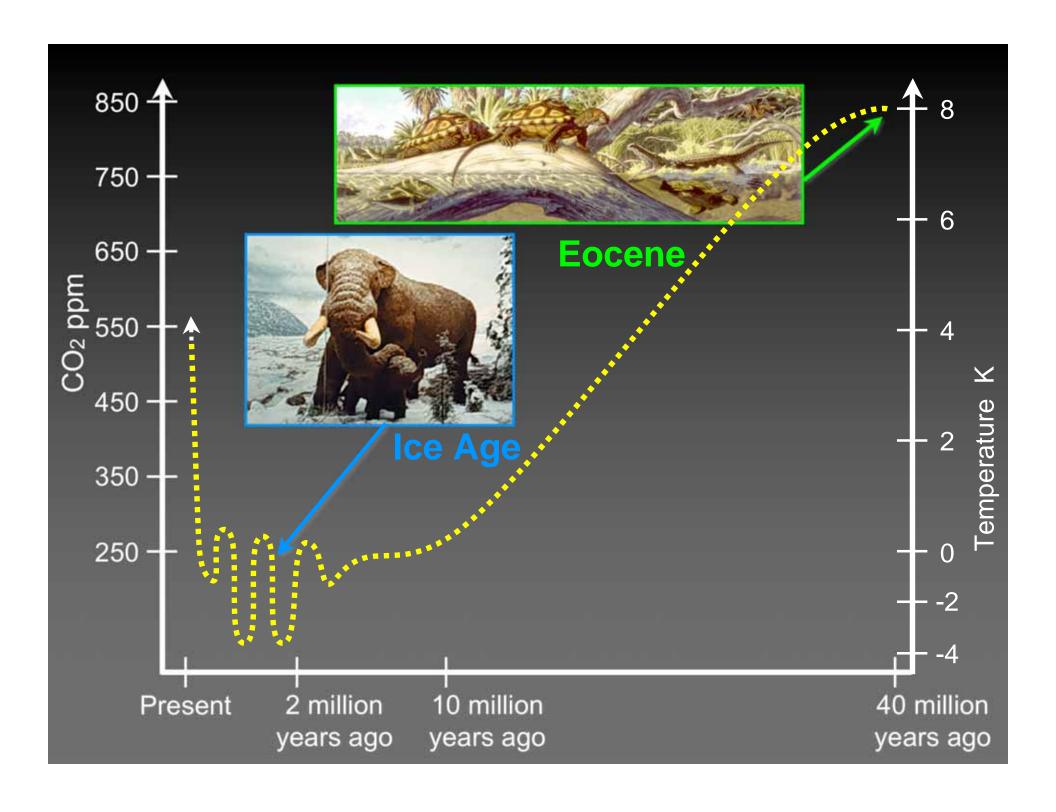


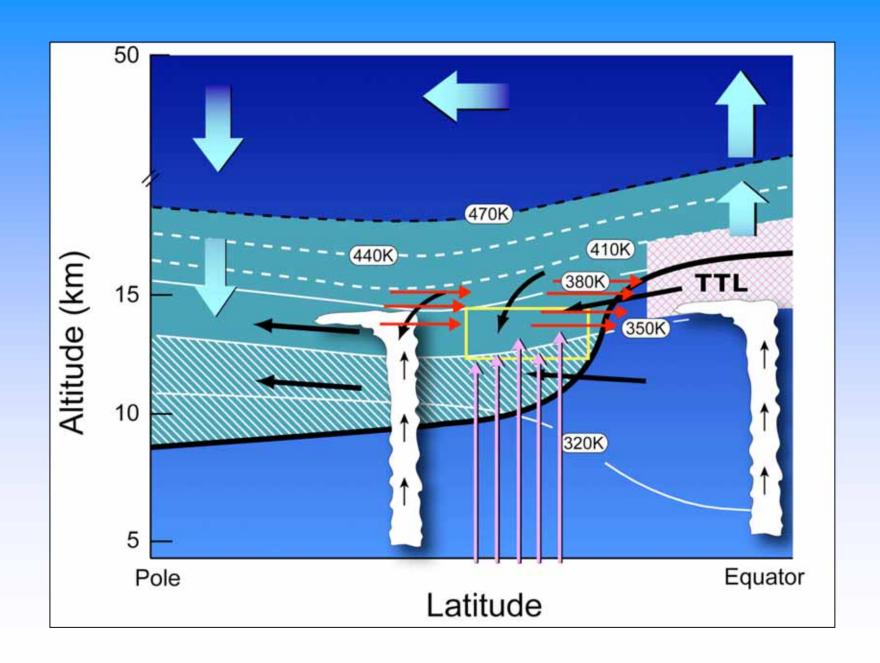








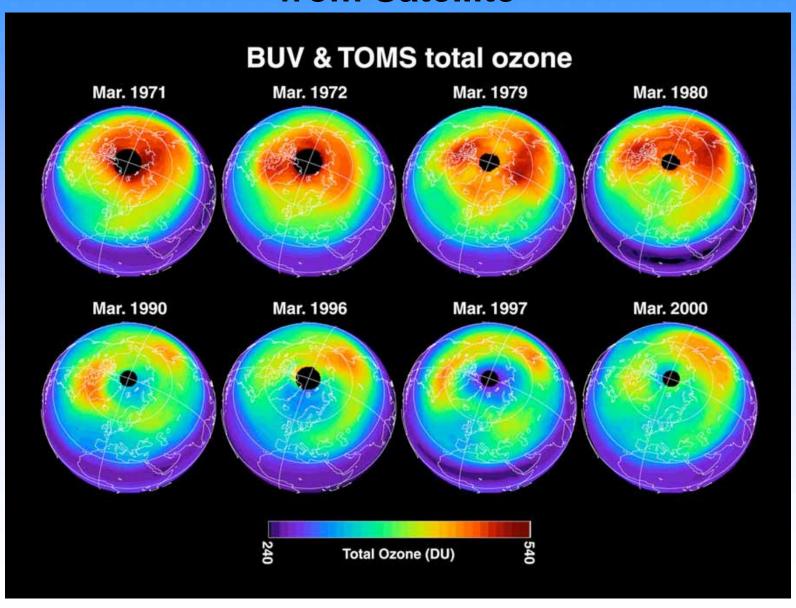


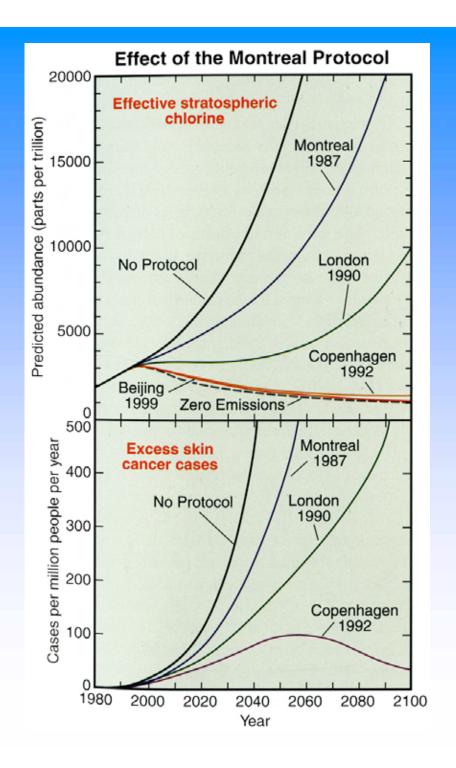


Research Objectives

- Establish the Mechanisms that Control Large Scale Transport in the Atmosphere
 - Trop/Strat Exchange and the Processes that Control Strat Water Vapor
 - How Boundary Condition on Water Responds to Climate Forcing

Ozone Loss in Northern Hemisphere from Satellite





The Coupling of Ozone Loss and Climate

$$HCl + ClONO_2 \xrightarrow{H_2O} Cl_2 + HONO_2$$
 Cold aerosols $Cl_2 + hv \rightarrow Cl + Cl$

$$Cl + O_3 \rightarrow ClO + O_2$$

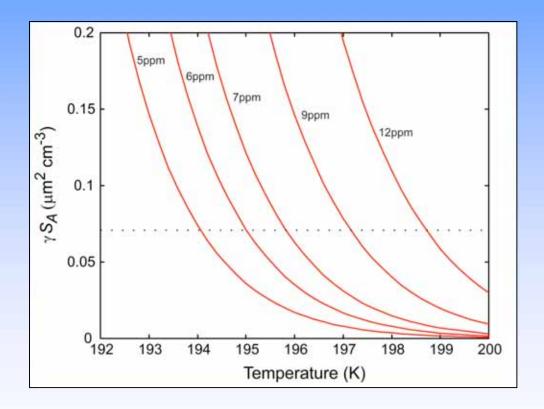
ClO + BrO
$$\rightarrow$$
 Cl + Br + O₂
Cl + O₃ \rightarrow ClO + O₂
Br + O₃ \rightarrow BrO + O₂

$$O_3 + O_3 \rightarrow 3O_2$$

Coupling of Chlorine and Bromine

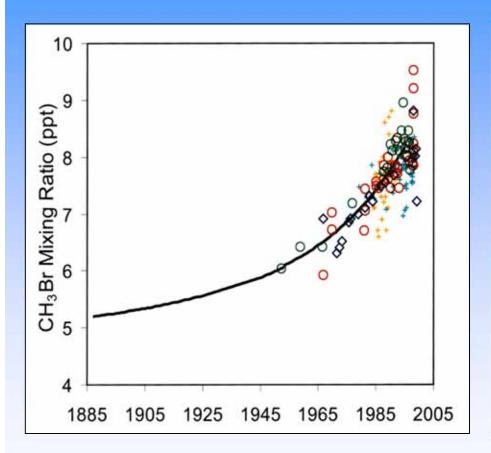
Linking Climate Change to Ozone Destruction

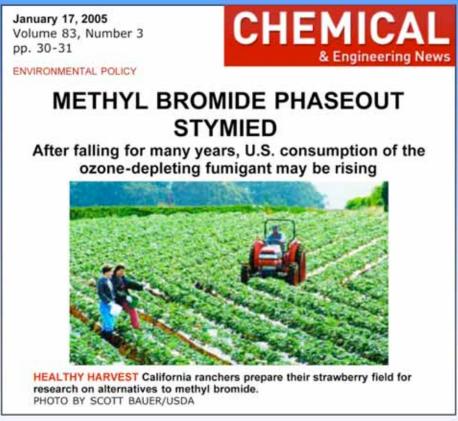
Future ozone loss is not simply a function of chlorine loading



Potential impact of climate change on water vapor in the atmosphere raises the threshold temperature for halogen activation.

Why Measure Bromine?





Methyl bromide is the largest atmospheric bromine source.

Future levels of bromine in the atmosphere may increase.

Research Objectives

- Establish the Mechanisms that Control Ozone in the Stratosphere and Troposphere
 - Balance Between Chemical and Dynamical Control of Ozone in the Lower Stratosphere
 - Cause of Ozone Erosion in the Lower Stratosphere
 - Impact of Ozone on Tropopause Boundary Condition
 - Forecast of UV Dosage Level in the next Decade, Two Decades.
 - Union with Medical Community to Forecast Human Health Impact

STRATEGY: USE IIP TECHNOLOGY TO ADDRESS TWO PROBLEMS – BOTH CRITICAL FOR CLIMATE RESPONSE TO FORCING

- 1. The issue of absolute water vapor concentrations and the large disparity between satellite and in situ concentrations
- 2. The introduction of isotopic tracers to diagnose mechanistic structure of strat/trop exchange

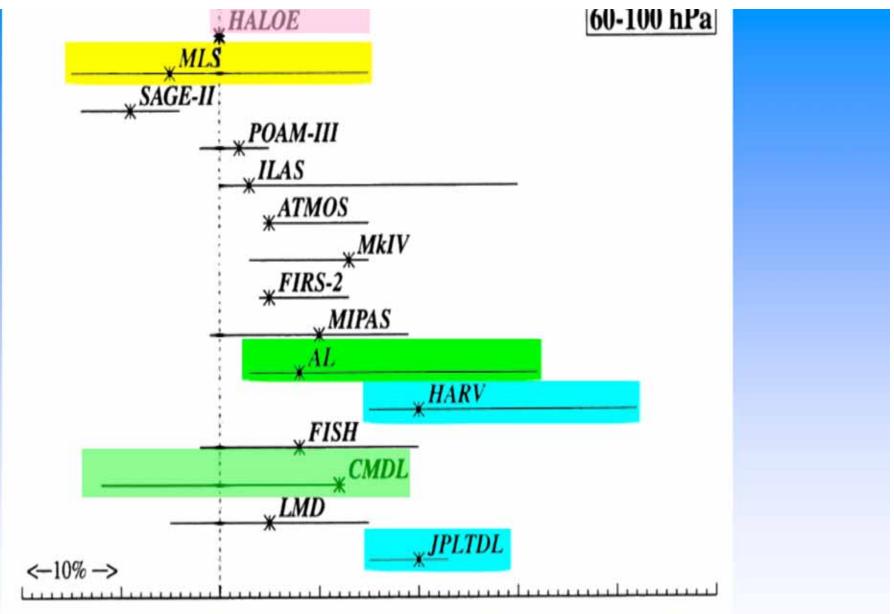


Figure 1. Summary of intercomparison relationships summarized in the 2000 SPARC report. Symbols give % difference from HALOE. Horizontal lines show range of intercomparisons.

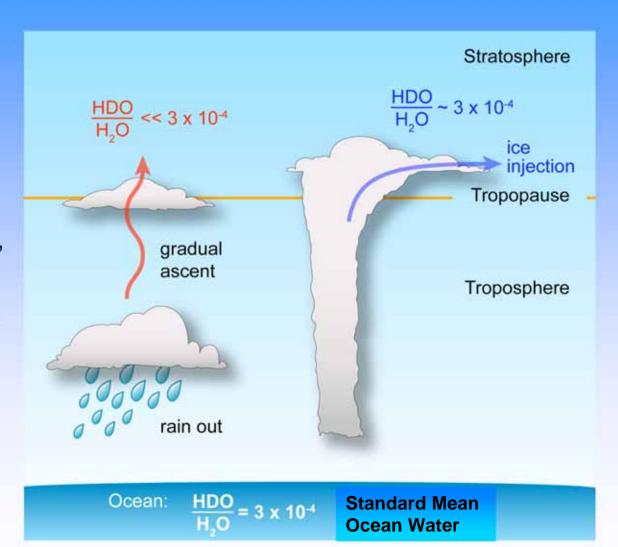


Aura Launch : July 15, 2004 Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA



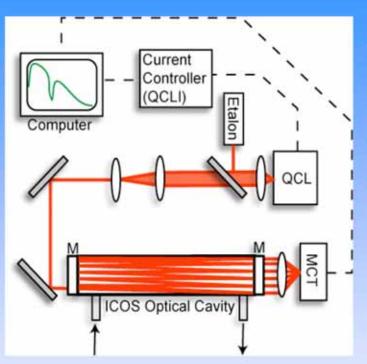
Water isotopes as tracers of Convection

- HDO condenses more readily than H₂O
- Rainout leads to HDO depletion
- Ice injection can make the stratosphere "Heavy"
- In situ water isotope measurements can offer a tracer for the condensation history of air parcels



 $\delta D = 1000 \text{ (HDO/H}_2\text{O/SMOW} - 1)$

Integrated Cavity Output Spectroscopy (ICOS)



Quantum Cascade Laser (100 mW)

1 meter cavity with 4" mirrors

High-finesse Optical Cavity (215ppm mirrors)

 $\tau = 14 \,\mu s \rightarrow L_{eff} = 4.5 \,km$

Calibration tied to laboratory measurements

of absorption cross-section

High Signal to Noise (SNR = 30 at 5ppm)

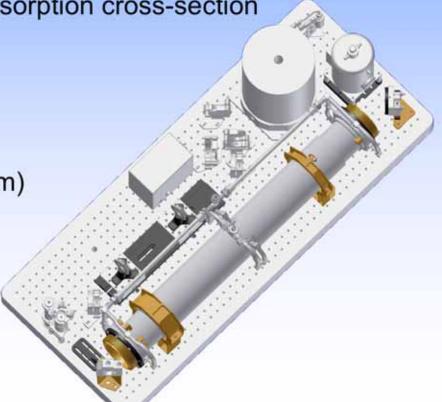
Precision

Accuracy:

Optical stability

Less susceptible to optical artifacts

In flight cals/diagnostics



HOx isotopes:

Photolysis - Fluorescence detection of HDO/H2O

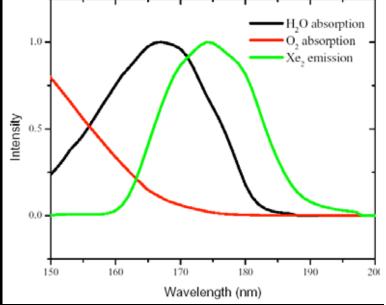
Excimer Lamp Photolysis

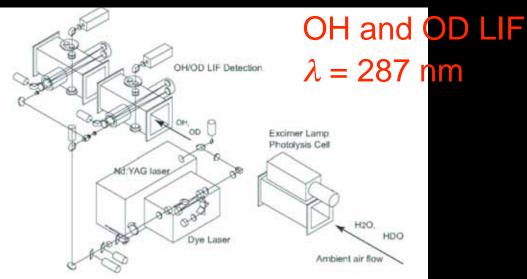


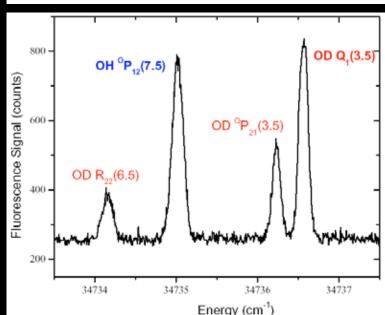
 $H_2O + hv \rightarrow H + OH$ HDO + $hv \rightarrow H + OD$

$$hv = 8W$$

 $\lambda = 172 \text{ nm}$







Radical vs. Molecular Sampling

Molecular water exchanges with walls. OH and OD radicals are lost irreversibly



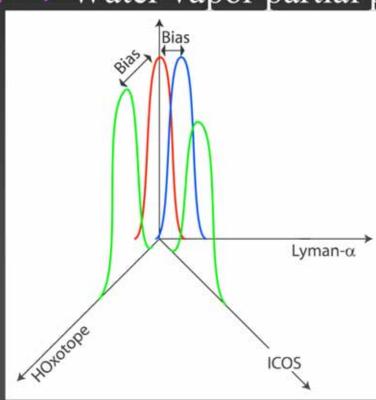


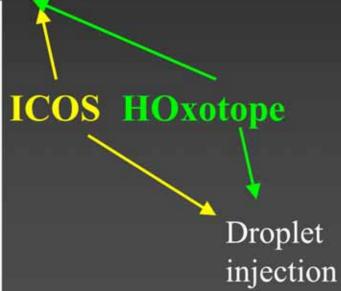
Extensive and intensive laboratory calibrations Using SI traceable standards

Lyman alpha water vapor and total water
ICOS HOxotope

Lyman alpha → Water vapor partial pressure

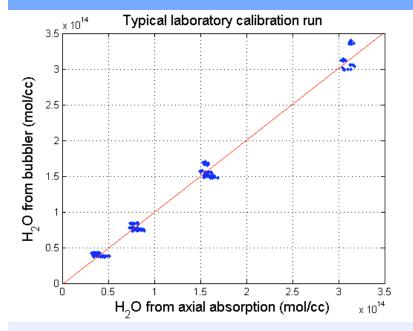
Axial and radial absorption at 121.6 nm

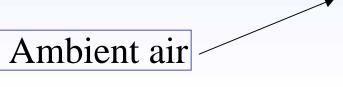




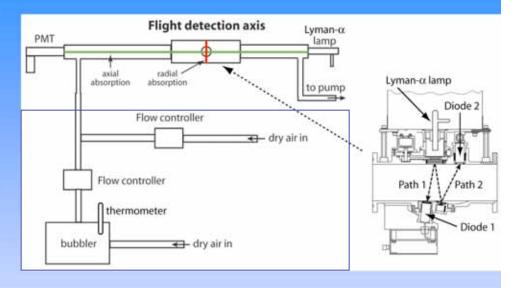
Overview of water vapor instrument accuracy

$$WV_{bub} = \frac{[H_2O]}{M} = \frac{P_{H_2O}}{P_B} \frac{\phi_h}{\phi_h + \varphi_d}$$

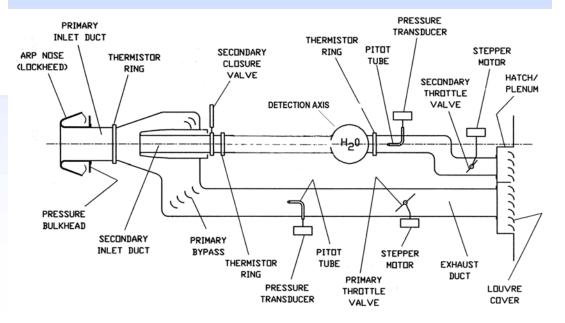




Water vapor source

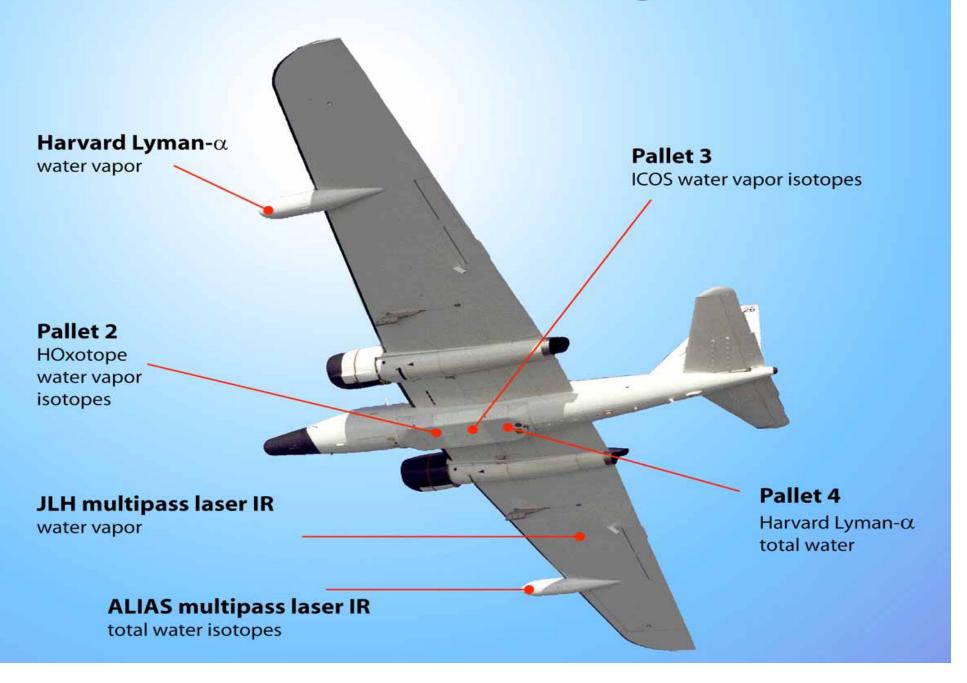


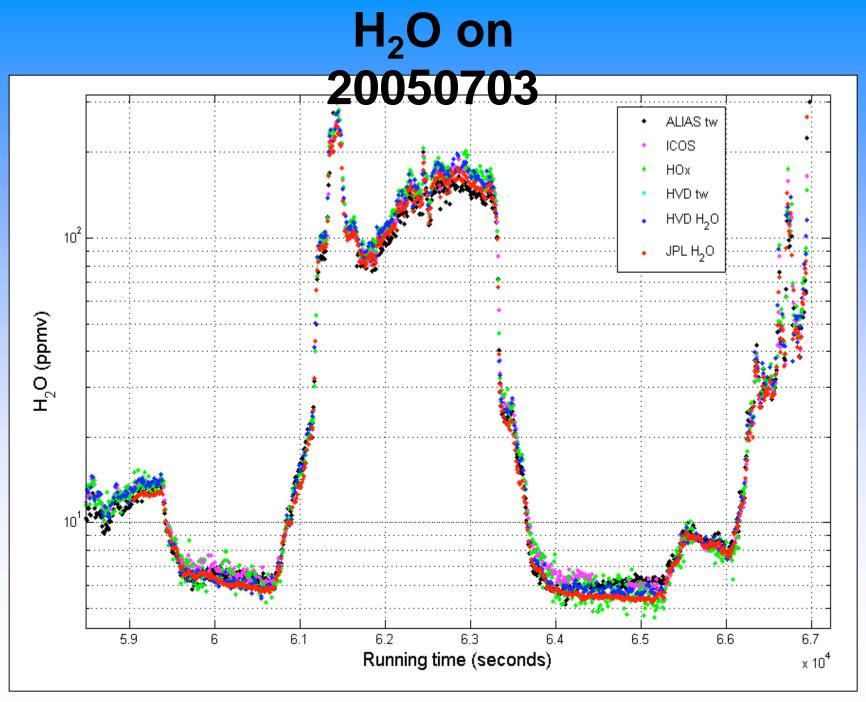
Water vapor source

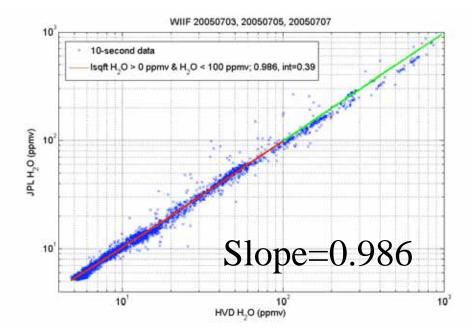


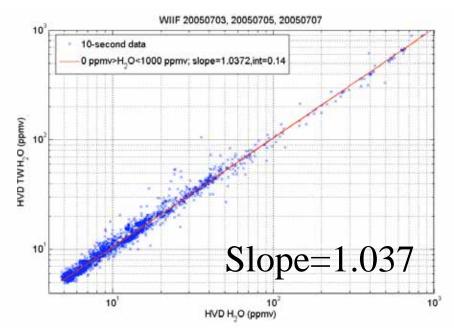


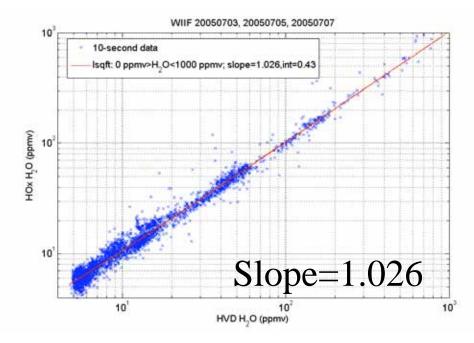
Water measurements during AVE-WIIF

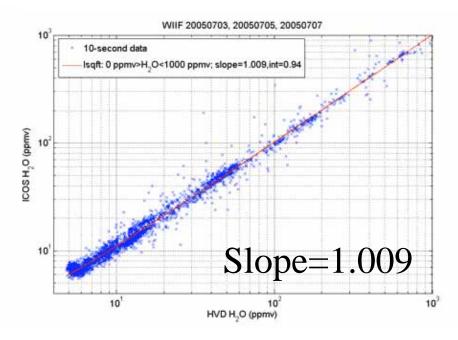


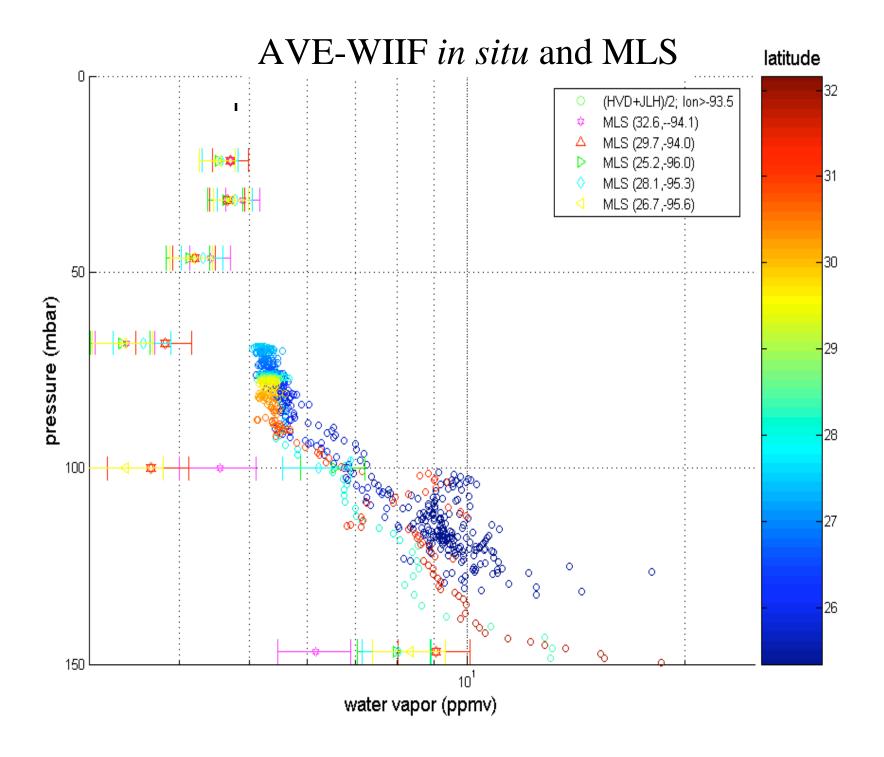












Take home messages from AVE-WIIF regarding water vapor measurements on the WB57

- Agreement among these in situ instruments is consistent with their quoted accuracy from the mid- troposphere to lower stratosphere.
- Satellite instrument validation efforts require high quality water vapor measurements with corroborated accuracy during all AVE deployments.
- Measurements of stratospheric water vapor used for trend measurements need to have traceability to SI standards.

Calibration/Validation

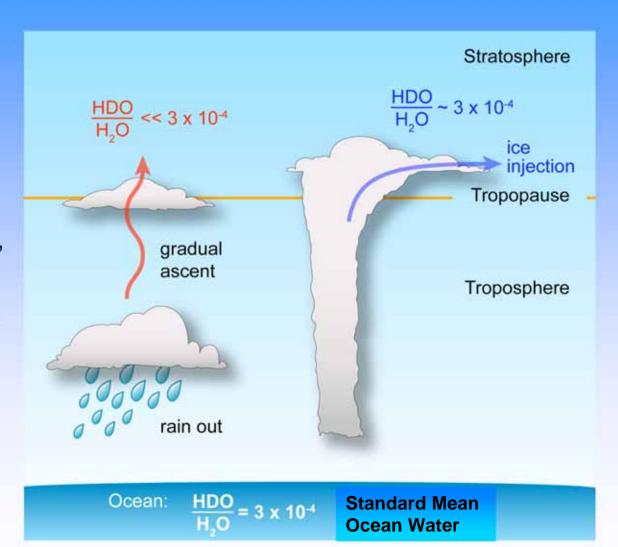
- Laboratory/airborne verification: Recognition of the fundamental importance of accuracy as a benchmark for intercomparison.
- Importance of independent methods used to diagnose systematic errors intrinsic to all observations.
- Sunshine policy on how raw data are converted to reported concentrations that are submitted to the archive.
- Key role played by head-to-head intercomparison flights.
- Need for a review board to critique field observations as is done with laboratory kinetics and photochemistry results.

Summary and Conclusions

- Stratospheric water vapor is an extremely sensitive indicator of the atmosphere's potentially rapid response to climate change
- Accordingly water vapor measurements with SI traceability are required for:
 - a. Establishing a temporal record of stratospheric water vapor
 - b.Satellite validation
 - c. Testing of strat-trop exchange mechanisms
 - d. Testing of climate models

Water isotopes as tracers of Convection

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Storm Track July 7, 2005

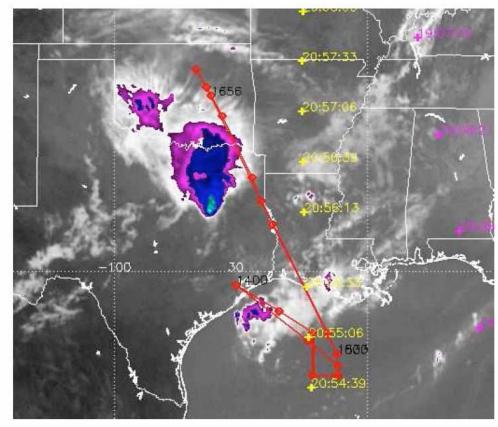
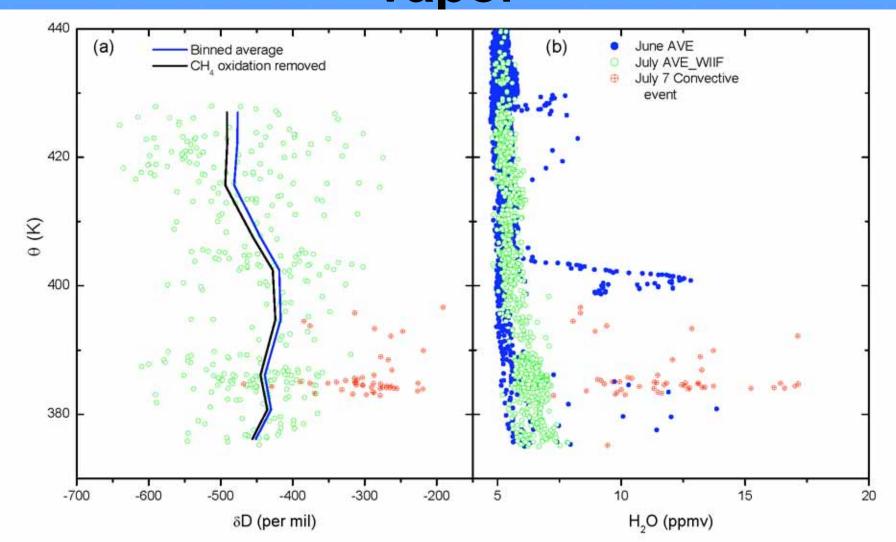
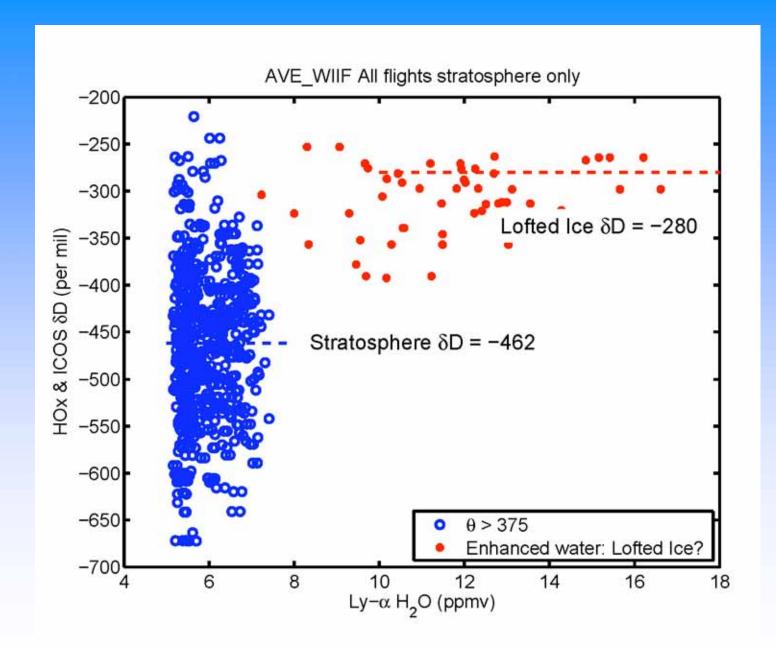


Figure 2: Flight track overlaid on the IR satellite image (Courtesy Lenny Pfister).

Overworld stratosphere water vapor





Isotopic depletion resulting from simple mixing

Rough calculation

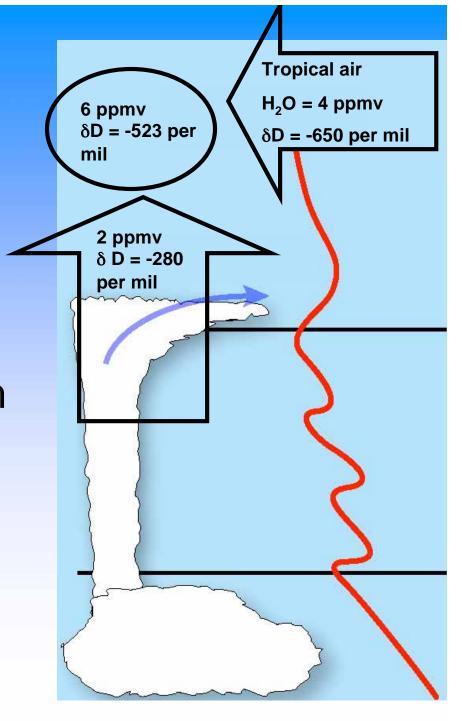
Tropical source: 4 ppm

@ -650 per mil

Convected source: 2 ppm

@ -280 per mil

 $\delta D = 4/6(-650 \text{ per mil}) + 2/6(-280 \text{ per mil})$ $\delta D = -523 \text{ per mil}$



What do isotopic measurements tell us about the mid-latitudes stratosphere?

In continental mid-latitudes summer:

- Stratosphere is isotopically very heavy, δD ~ 450 per mil
- Isotopic enhancements persist up to maximum altitude of WB-57 (θ > 420 K)
- Water additions from convected ice are observed up to maximum altitude of WB-57 (θ > 420 K)
- Mid-latitudes deep convection may be a significant source of water (isotopically heavy) to the overworld stratosphere